



Planning & Development Department

POOL & POOL BARRIER REQUIREMENTS



POOL REQUIREMENTS

All fishponds, spas and other contained bodies of water, either above or below ground level, being 18 inches or more in depth, and/or wider than eight feet at any two measured points, shall require a barrier.

Pools must be located in the rear or side yard of the property.

Pools must be set back at least three feet from all property lines.

Permits for outdoor swimming pool barriers must be issued prior to installing the barrier, plastering the pool, and/or filling the pool with water.

POOL BARRIER REQUIREMENTS

The top of a barrier should be at least 60 inches above finished grade (exterior side of barrier).

The maximum gap between the bottom of the barrier and finished grade shall be two inches. For a solid base grade, such as concrete, the gap may be four inches.

If a barrier is constructed with horizontal members less than 54 inches apart, such members must be placed on the interior side of the barrier.

Decorative design work that allows for easy climbing on the exterior barrier is prohibited.

Protective barriers must be located at least 54 inches from any exterior object that could be used to climb the protective barrier.

The owner will ensure that the entire barrier is maintained. No section may be altered or removed except to reconstruct, repair or replace the barrier.

Barrier openings are restricted to one and three quarter inches.

If chain link fencing is used as a barrier, it must be eleven gauge or greater.

Openings in the barrier shall not allow passage of a one and three quarter inch diameter (44.5 mm) sphere.

Exception:

- When vertical spacing between such openings is 54 inches (1143 mm) or more, the opening size may be increased such that the passage of a 4-inch diameter (102mm) sphere is not allowed.
- For fencing composed of vertical and horizontal members, the spacing between vertical members may be increased up to 4 inches (102 mm) when the distance between the tops of horizontal members is 54 inches (1143 mm) or more.

Access gates will comply with all pool barrier requirements and will be equipped with self-closing, self-latching devices. All access gates must open away from the pool.

When the latching mechanism is less than 54 inches above ground, it must be on the poolside of the gate and at least three inches below the top of the gate.

If the building wall comprises a part of the pool barrier and subject wall contains a door providing direct access to the pool area, a separate barrier shall be installed between the door and the pool.

Exception:

The building official may approve the substitution of a self-closing, self-latching device with a release mechanism at least 54 inches above ground; or an alarm which sounds continuously for a minimum of 30 seconds at a level not less than 85 decibels, within seven seconds of the door or the screen being opened.



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POOL BARRIER REQUIREMENTS CONTINUED

A window facing a pool enclosure shall be equipped with a mesh screen and a lock and key that restricts opening the window to no more than four inches or a latching device 54 inches above the floor.

Emergency escape or rescue windows must be equipped with a latching device at least 54 inches from the floor.

Call (602) 506-7147 for additional information